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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

Volume 43 Issue 15

MARCH 31, 2006

<http://www.ualberta.ca/folio>

Mascots give the gift of life

Corporate Challenge team supports good cause

By Ileiren Byles

The University of Alberta's friendly mascots Guba and Patches bleed green and gold but when it comes to saving lives, they're both willing to roll up their sleeves.

Guba and Patches showed the Corporate Challenge spirit recently and cheerfully donated blood for the U of A's Corporate Challenge team. From now until May 20, U of A students, staff, alumni and their friends and family can donate at Canadian Blood Services to bolster the university's endeavours.

"Last year, we placed fourth, donating a total of 133 units - this year we want to double that," said Maryanne Wynne, captain of the U of A's Corporate Challenge blood donor challenge team. "We're going to encourage a little friendly competition, and get departments to challenge other departments, stir up a little rivalry between faculties, even between buildings."

The U of A heads into this spring's Edmonton Corporate Challenge defending its third consecutive first-place win. The Corporate Challenge's blood donor event is important every year for Canadian Blood Services, said spokesman Andrew Laycock.

"It's a huge event for us," he said. "We collect about 4,000 units of blood and, with each unit helping three people, that's 12,000 Albertans who were helped. One of our goals for this event is to recruit 600 new donors."

Each donor for the U of A earns the university one point - two if they're a first-time donor. Anyone who wants to participate can call the CBS hotline at 1-800-2DONATE (236-6283) to make an appointment or ask any questions about eligibility, said Laycock. "The line is staffed with registered nurses 24 hours a day, seven days a week," he said. "And people don't have to necessarily donate here (at the



RN Hetty Folkers prepares U of A mascot Guba before he and Patches donated blood for the university's Corporate Challenge team. To join any U of A Corporate Challenge teams visit www.ualberta.ca/challenge.

**"Donating blood is quick, it's painless
and it saves lives."**

— Guba

Canadian Blood Services central location). They can sign up at any of our mobile clinics in the greater Edmonton area."

Sometimes it takes a little extra incentive to get people to roll their sleeves up, but once they do, they tend to become repeat donors, said Laycock.

"A lot of people find it's not as hard as they thought, doesn't take as long as they thought and doesn't hurt as much as they thought," he said. "Yes, there's a pinch, but most people compare that to the fact

that they could be saving someone's life, and it's more than worth it."

Those people who donate plasma and platelets are also eligible for the Corporate Challenge. "There's a really big need for plasma and platelet donors," said Laycock. "And if you chose that, you can donate more often - once every six days - because it's the red cells that take the longest to regenerate."

Guba and Patches did their part, because they're just used to being on a winning team.

"Donating blood is quick, it's painless and it saves lives," said Guba.

"And if you are unable to donate, you can still urge your family and friends to donate for the Green and Gold, just like we did," said Patches. ■

Board approves \$1-billion budget, fourth floor for Bay building No cuts in deficit budget

By Richard Cairney

The University of Alberta board of governors approved a \$1-billion budget and construction of a fourth floor on its new downtown building March 17.

The board approved building a fourth floor atop the Bay building in the city's downtown core. The university acquired the historic building last year through a deal with municipal, provincial and federal governments. The fourth floor addition, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) Don Hickey said, will cost about \$20 million and will add needed capacity to the building.

The building's main tenant will be TEC Edmonton, a technology transfer centre run by the U of A and Edmonton Economic Development Corporation. It will occupy the fourth floor and most of the third. Non-credit Faculty of Extension and School of Business courses will be offered at the building, which will also house private tenants.

The board of governors also approved a \$1-billion budget. Highlights of the budget include \$231.7 million in construction and renovation projects. The university's 2006-07 consolidated budget is balanced but there is a \$7-million shortfall in this year's operating budget.

Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark said utility costs are behind the deficit, adding that a plan is in place to eliminate the university's debt within 10 years.

"If we want to bring the budget into alignment we'd have to introduce cuts and cuts across the faculties and administrative units are extremely devastating and would turn the institution back into a place we don't have to be," she said. The U of A, she added, "is probably in a better position than most other (Canadian) institutions are."

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Provincial budget invests in the future

Largest-ever spending increase in post-secondary education

By Ileiren Byles

There were a lot of smiling faces at the University of Alberta after Alberta's 2006 budget was announced last week.

"It's a terrific day for the university," Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein said following the March 22 budget speech. "We are happy, we are extraordinarily happy."

Budget 2006 features the largest ever, single-year hike in post-secondary education spending, a 19-per-cent increase of \$353 million for a total budget of \$2.2 billion. For the U of A, that means more student spaces, a six-per-cent increase in base operating grants for each of the next three years, coverage for tuition increases this fall, more money to increase enrollment and first-time funding from the Access to the Future Fund. It also means money for a major new building for the Faculty of

Science.

"I heard the words that I need to hear - the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science. So, I'm very happy today," said the U of A's Dean of Science Dr. Greg Taylor, adding that more details would be available later this week.

The 19-per-cent increase in funding for post-secondary institutions is the largest of any government department in this year's budget, said Amrhein. "My guess is that is pretty solid evidence of the government's commitment that was announced in the 20-year economic plan," he said. "They've also increased, much more substantially than we thought, the number of student spaces. So, not only did they roll back tuition, but they also increased by 50 per cent the number of new funded spaces that we were expecting."

Students' Union President Graham Lettner was more cautious with his praise, but said he liked the direction the government is heading.

"These are definitely steps in the right direction, some positive things being announced today, for sure. Naturally, students are looking to see some hurry up and go, but this is definitely not regressing," he said. "My only hope is that they continue to build on the momentum and not let it dissipate or let their focus be taken off post-secondary education."

Lettner does have some concerns about the province's plan to increase the amount of student financing that will be made available. A total of \$97 million will be allocated for student loans, up \$13 million (15 per cent) from last year. Yearly student loan limits will increase by \$300 to \$12,440.



Dr. Carl Amrhein

"There's been an increase in the personal exemption and the loan limit's gone up by \$300 to allow students to take out more money to finance their education," he said. "That's kind of a give and take because ideally the costs of education should be decreasing, not the financing opportunities increasing."

Amrhein, however, said this year's budget proves post-secondary education is a priority for the government. "It maintains the momentum, it helps today's students and it ensures that tomorrow's students will be accommodated," he said. "We will be a learning society at the rate at which the post-secondary system is evolving, and I think that will ensure the wealth and the welfare of Alberta's economy. It's truly an investment in the future." ■

»» quick »» facts

Budget 2006 highlights for post-secondary education:

- A record \$2.2 billion budget for Advanced Education, a 19-per-cent increase over last year.
- \$87 million in ongoing funding to keep tuition this year at 2004-05 levels.
- \$61 million (a 50-per-cent increase) this year to address enrollment growth, expand apprenticeship training and encourage participation in advanced learning opportunities.
- A six-per-cent annual increase in base operating grants (from 2006-07 through 2008-09) to post-secondary institutions through Advanced Education.
- \$273 million for post-secondary capital projects this year, \$1.1 billion for the next three years through Advanced Education. This is an increase of \$659 million (146 per cent) over the 2005-08 Capital Plan.
- \$45 million from the Access to the Future Fund.
- \$27.1 million from Advanced Education and \$8.1 million from Human Resources and Employment to support the province's record number of apprentices.
- \$294 million (a \$25-million increase) for Human Resources and Employment programs and services to address skill and labour shortages.

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Volume 43 Number 15

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
(EXTERNAL RELATIONS)
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Folio's mandate is to serve as a credible news source for the university community by communicating accurate and timely information about issues, programs, people and events and by serving as a forum for discussion and debate.

Folio is published 20 times per year.

The editor reserves the right to limit, select, edit and position submitted copy and advertisements. Views expressed in *Folio* do not necessarily reflect university policy. *Folio* contents may be printed with acknowledgement.

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AHFMR announces \$48 million in provincial support

\$24.5 million to be shared among 34 U of A researchers

By Caitlin Crawshaw

A \$24.5-million funding boost from the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) means big things for University of Alberta researchers, including molecular biologist Dr. Jason Dyck.

Dyck studies cardiac hypertrophy, or abnormal heart muscle cell size, a condition that can cause numerous heart problems, including heart failure.

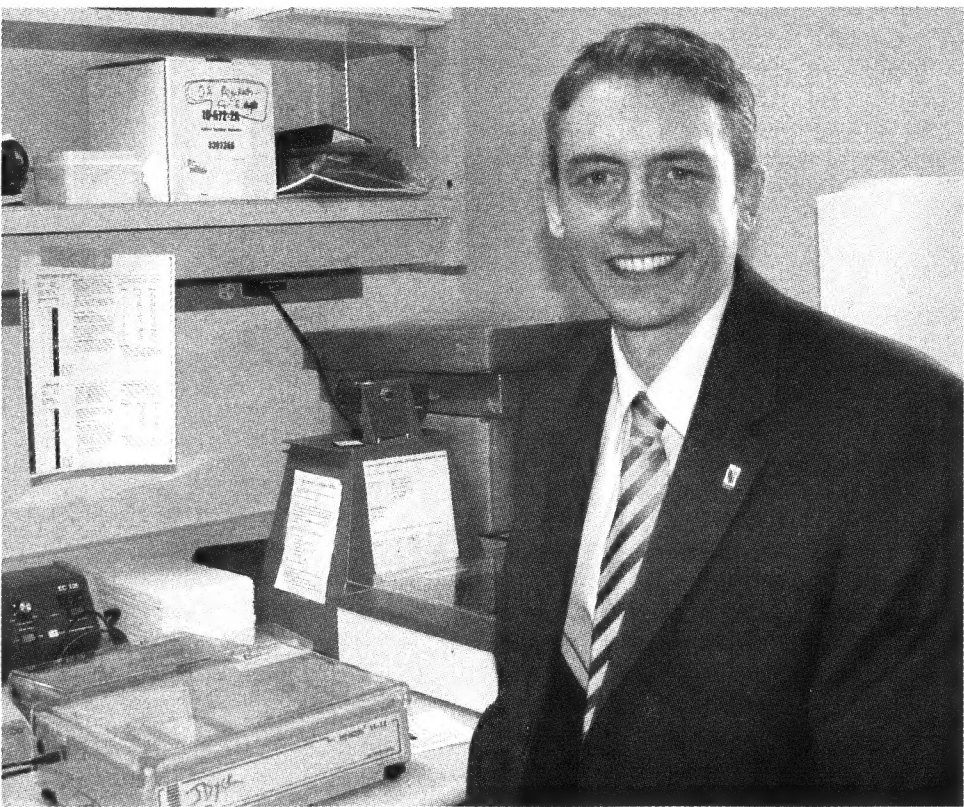
"Essentially I'm looking at the molecular biology of heart disease," said Dyck.

"We're identifying pathways that allow us to look at how the heart functions during heart disease or during other forms of stress, like following a heart attack. By identifying these pathways we'll be able to eventually produce drugs that target these pathways and may significantly reduce the number of deaths caused by cardiovascular disease worldwide."

Because of his outstanding work in this area, AHFMR is providing funds for salaries, equipment, laboratory start-up and other support in Dyck's lab. Thirty-four U of A health researchers will share \$24.5 million of the \$48 million AHFMR announced for top health scientists at the U of A, University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge today.

"I'm extremely fortunate and very honoured to have received this award," said Dyck.

"First and foremost it funds my salary. And also, AHFMR has supported my post-doctoral fellows and students. That's extremely important as it allows my research to move forward. In addition, they also provide funds that directly sup-



Dr. Jason Dyck's research into heart muscle cells is one of the projects supported by \$24.5 million in funding the AHFMR awarded to U of A researchers last week. Provincially, the foundation awarded \$48 million.

port my research program so it's extremely exciting to be given this award, which allows my research to continue."

AHFMR funding helps the U of A recruit top researchers and retain talent, said Vice-Provost (Health Sciences Council) Dr. Jane Drummond.

"Top researchers are instrumental in

attracting outstanding students and other scholars, including clinicians," she said. "Working together, these individuals not only help to make the University of Alberta a centre of excellence for health science research and teaching, but they also contribute to the delivery of leading health care in Alberta and far beyond." ■

Province backs Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science

Flagship Faculty of Science building will foster interdisciplinary studies

By Richard Cairney and Sandra Halme

A new, state-of-the-art facility at the University of Alberta will bring together students, professors and researchers from a variety of departments and faculties to create a unique approach to scientific discovery.

The Alberta government has committed \$285 million over the next three years towards the construction of the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science. The centre, scheduled to open in 2010, will be one of only a few of its kind in the world to house interdisciplinary science research teams in one facility. It will attract and retain world-class teaching and researching talents - from Alberta, Canada, and across the globe.

"Our government is thrilled to partner with the University of Alberta on this leading-edge initiative," said Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock, adding that the centre "will change the way we look at science education."

Faculty of Science Dean Dr. Greg Taylor said the new building is important to the faculty itself, students and researchers.

"It opens the doors to advanced education and science provides infrastructure for 1,100 new undergraduate students and 500 new graduate students, so we increase our capacity," he said. "It is a major teaching facility. We are bringing teaching and research together in ways that are uncommon. We'll have 2,200 new lecture seats in same environment as researchers, scientist, grad students and technicians.

The project takes a "new approach" in that it brings students in across traditional boundaries. The building was designed with plenty of common spaces, and glass walls that not only help bring in natural light, but also put teaching and research on display.

"It is designed to encourage informal interaction, which is the fuel of collaboration," Taylor said.

The building has also sparked a discussion about a new vision for the university's Quad. The demolition of the V-Wing will "return a significant portion of the Quad back to green space," he said. "It's a pretty exciting offshoot. It could be part of a legacy to campus."

University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera said CCIS is an investment in people and their potential.

"It's all about the people who will come here to have their potential realized," Samarasekera said. The centre's interdisciplinary nature is the way of the future for

learning and discovery. In such environments, she said, "traditional boundaries disappear and new, completely new fields of discovery appear."

"The Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science is a state-of-the-art facility that will enhance our research reputation and foster interdisciplinary collaboration. It is a brilliant and visionary investment by Albertans in the future of science and knowledge."

A total of \$1.1 billion has been allocated for capital projects at Alberta's post-secondary institutions under the 2006-09 capital plan through Advanced Education, with \$273 million for projects in 2006-07.

"This funding demonstrates our government's commitments to ensuring Alberta is a leader in research, increasing the number of student spaces in the post-secondary system, and making sure students receive an education that is dynamic and of the highest quality," Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock said.

The Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science will be located on the main campus of the University of Alberta, and will be a signature building on the University Quad. The centre will provide the space, environmental control, and technological capacities to meet teaching, research and technology transfer needs and accommodate the expected growth of the Faculty of Science over the next 10 years.

The centre will replace the Physics Building and the V-Wing Building, which are no longer functional for instruction or research because the electrical, mechanical and ventilation systems cannot accommodate the equipment and technology used. Demolition of these facilities is expected to begin as early as July 2006, with construction of the new facility starting shortly after. Construction on the new lecture halls (east end of Biological Sciences) will begin in June 2006, as no demolition is required for this area.

CCIS will be the flagship of the Faculty of Science. The prominence of the site and the leading-edge nature of the learning and research environment require architecture that captures landmark technology, and an environment that will stimulate research, innovation and discovery while complementing nearby historical buildings. This building will be subject to the "LEED" Green Building Measurement System as administered by the Canadian Green Building Council. ■



The Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science will nurture unique collaborations and change the face of campus.



Faculty of Science Associate Dean (Diversity) Margaret-Anne Armour, centre, conducts experiments for (left - right) President Indira Samarasekera, Leduc-Beaumont-Devon MLA George Rogers, Edmonton-Castledowns MLA Thomas Lukaszuk, Dean of Science Greg Taylor, and Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock.

»» quick »» facts

Total Cost: \$315 million
Total Size: 52,227 square metres
Number of additional science undergraduate students: 1,100
Number of additional science graduate students: 478

Number of additional science faculty: 57
Number of lecture seats: 2,200
Number of lab seats: 648
Number of computing lab seats: 230
Lecture theatre completion: 2008
Main Building completion: 2010

University establishes Canada's first public health faculty

School of Public Health takes a new approach to wellness

By Richard Cairney and Sandra Halme

The University of Alberta has formed Canada's first university faculty dedicated to public health, set to take in students this fall.

U of A President Indira Samarasekera called creation of the new School of Public Health "historic."

"This is the first School of Public Health in the country - this is historic," Samarasekera told board members who approved the school's formation March 17. "It has taken people of vision to create something that is going to set apart our university and our province, given our relationships with the universities of Calgary and Lethbridge."

The School of Public Health will draw students, academics and researchers from a variety of disciplines, absorbing the Faculty of Medicine's Department of Public Health Sciences and the university's Centre for Health Promotion Studies, and will collaborate with public health research

activities at the universities of Calgary and Lethbridge. It will focus on prevention and wellness, said Roger Palmer, the faculty's interim dean.

"We will look at the prevention of injury and disease rather than the treatment of it," said Palmer, a former deputy minister with Alberta Health and Wellness. "Across the country all the public health activity has been embedded in schools of medicine, which focus on treatment more than prevention."

Preventive measures, he observes, have made tremendous impacts on society's well being.

"Simple things like clean water and immunization, pre-natal and post-natal care have made really big differences to society," he said. "Hospitals have big transplant centres, which are great - but the results are more dramatic for the individual than for society."

One of the most effective ways Canada's

healthcare system can remain sustainable is to focus on health promotion, risk reduction, and disease and injury prevention. That is the mandate of public health - to improve the overall health of the population through prevention. Outbreaks like SARS and the threat of avian flu have reinforced the need for greater public education, research and training in public health.

This new school will see the university integrate and build upon its existing public health strengths in the Centre for Health Promotion Studies, department of public health sciences and the faculties of agriculture, forestry and home economics, arts, business, medicine and dentistry, law, nursing, physical education and recreation, pharmacy and rehabilitation medicine. Palmer will serve as interim dean while a search for the inaugural dean is undertaken.

The School of Public Health will offer graduate studies and will begin teaching and research programs in September.

Among the school's initiatives will be a strengthened professional program leading to a Master's of Public Health.

The establishment of the new faculty drew praise from the education and health communities.

"The School of Public Health will strengthen Alberta's reputation as a leader in innovation - both from a health perspective and an educational perspective," said Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock.

Health and Wellness Minister Iris Evans said the school will help "to build a culture that knows how to stay healthy and has the support of evidence-based information and awareness of best practices as its foundation."

The school "creates an opportunity for our existing staff to obtain an advanced degree locally," said Dr. Gerry Predy, vice president Public Health, medical officer of health, Capital Health. ■

Circus sets the stage for *Execution*

Art imitates life in Studio Theatre production

By Zoltan Varadi

"Scenes From An Execution centres around the timeless conflict between an artist's need to be true to herself and satisfy the demands of her powerful patrons."

So reads an excerpt from the official promotional literature for Studio Theatre's production of the Howard Barker play, opening at the Timms Centre for the Arts March 31. The line also seems uncannily applicable to a certain masters' student working on the production.

"I never thought of it that way. I guess it does, doesn't it?" laughed Renate Pohl, whose elaborate work on the play is in partial fulfillment of her MFA thesis in design. "It's not so much a money issue, but there are certain demands, moreso the expectations of a university setting."

Indeed there are: Pohl's duties for *Scenes From An Execution* go far beyond the norm of what would be expected of a designer in professional theatre. Her tasks include, "doing sets, which include props, costumes, and lighting, which in this case also includes video projections."

The play centres around Galaxia, a character Pohl says is very loosely based on the Renaissance artist Artemisia Gemtleschi, a rare female painter from that period who, by the age of 17, specialized in bloody, visceral, and stunning pieces. "So in terms of the lighting," she said, "I did a lot of research of Artemisa's work, as well as Caravaggio's, so the colour palette I choose really represents that – strong, strong darks and lights."

Working in tandem with director Kathleen Weiss, Pohl said, "we've actually talked a lot about the idea of risk because Howard Barker's works are greatly saturated in the notion of taking great risks in theatre... This play really gets as deep as it gets. It's about death, life, sex, politics, but

there's also an existential bent to it – the kind of questions that we're presented with in everyday life in a sublime sort of way.

"In order to reach that there needs to be a certain amount of risk on stage."

For instance, in the role of costume designer, Pohl needed a way to approach the nudity called for in the script. The way she solved the problem not only addressed the issue at hand, but ended up giving the setting as a whole a distinctive feel. By adopting a circus-like atmosphere, she gave the play a dark, somewhat surreal tone, appropriate for its subject matter. And with the circus come tights; for the faux birthday-suited actors flesh-coloured ones fit the bill, not to mention the bodies, quite nicely.

Along the same lines, Pohl said she needed to "connect the dots" between the various settings in which *Scenes From An Execution* take place – a studio, a battleship and a palace. Once again, the circus theme came into effect in the form of scaffolding, which proved ideal for providing a consistent look for the whole play, but also for being adaptable for the different locales.

But, despite the punishing workload and demands of her "powerful patrons" in the form of the department heads evaluating her thesis, Pohl says her experience couldn't be further from Galaxia's. The painter bucked the expectations of the Venetian court to produce a painting heralding their glory, opting instead to depict the battle scene of her commission with brutal realism – a move that lands her in jail and drives her "a bit mad."

Unlike the solitary artist, Pohl said, "in theatre, you're always negotiating; you're constantly working very closely with the director and actors."

Tickets for *Scenes From An Execution*



Richard Cairney

Nadien Chu, left, and Simone Saunders in a scene from *Scenes From An Execution*, playing at the Timms Centre for the Arts until April 8.

are on sale now at TIX on the Square (420-1757 / www.tixonthesqaure.ca) and at the Studio Theatre box office one hour

prior to curtain for that day's performance only. *Scenes From An Execution* runs until April 8. ■

University puts wheels in motion for kids

Program helps kids gain freedom on two wheels

By Ileiren Byles

The sound of bicycle bells was mixed with bouncing basketballs at the University of Alberta's Butterdome.

More than a dozen youngsters were taking their first steps to increased independence by learning to pedal their bikes. A program run by the university's Centre for Adapted Group and Individual Exercise (CAGE), which provides motor development programming for children with impairments and disabilities, the bike challenge helped the participants learn to spin their wheels.

"As we all know, growing up in the summer and riding your bike with your friends or with your family is very important for several reasons - for independence, to enjoy the outdoors and to be able to participate with your friends and family," said Karen Robinson, co-ordinator for the CAGE program.

"The thing about being able to ride a bike is that, a lot of time, if you can't, you'll get left behind," added Donna Goodwin, executive director of the U of A Steadward Centre for Personal and Physical Achievement.

"Not all of the children who come to CAGE have visible disabilities, some are experiencing co-ordination problems that really can get in the way of learning bicycle skills on the street, in public vision with other neighbourhood children around," she said. "And now we've got lots of slush, and it's just not a happy environment out there."

Some of the young participants obviously had some previous experience on their wheels and program staff and volunteers instructed those children on the

"Bikes enable you to go faster and further than

you can on your own two feet. That's all there is

to it. I can get from here to there faster on a bike

than I can on my feet, so I like my bike and the kids

appear to have the same sort of enthusiasm."

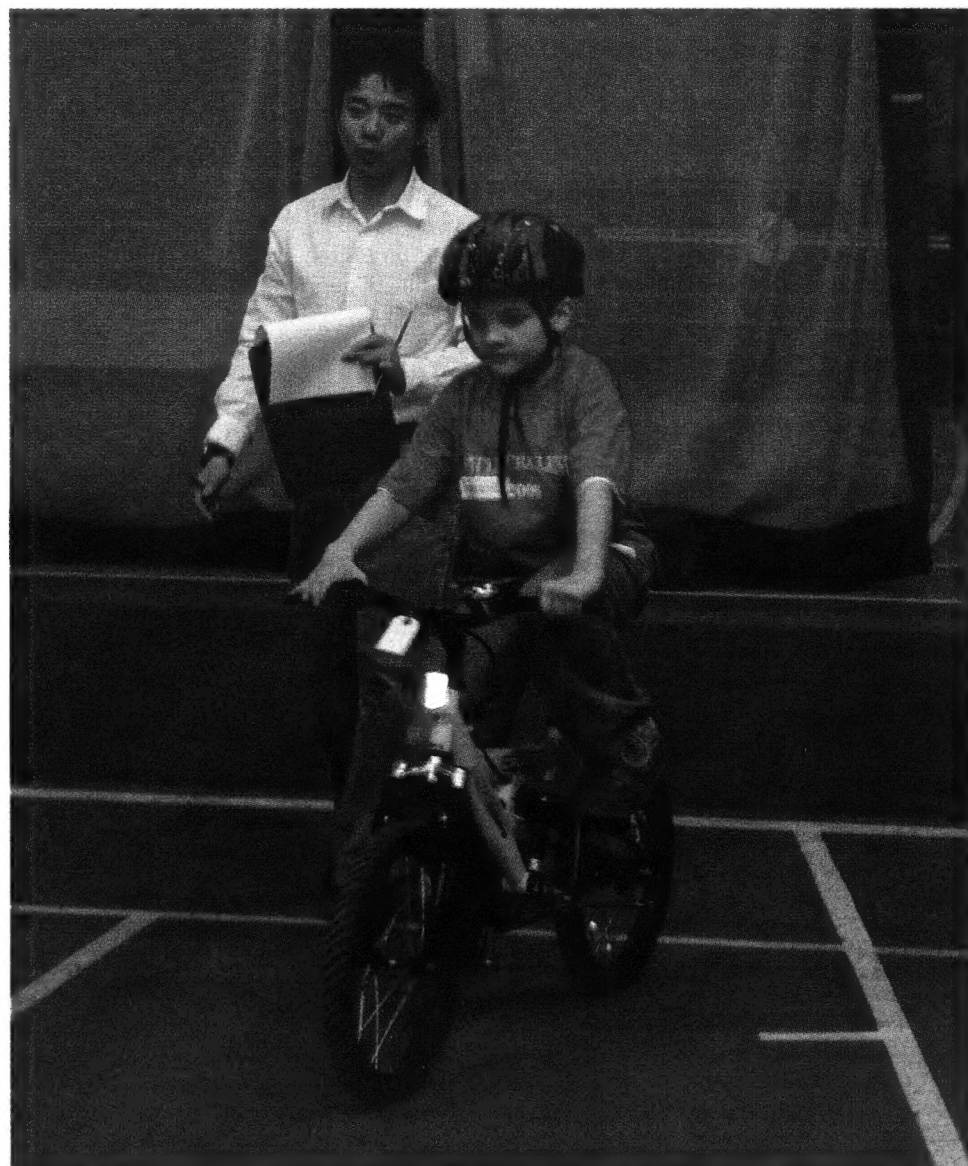
– Mike Cabigon

rules of the road and safety. For others, just making it that first few metres without stopping was a major accomplishment, said Mike Cabigon, as he shouted encouragement to one such boy.

A U of A alumnus, Cabigon was attracted to the freedom and speed bicycles offered him as a child. Now, a competitive mountain biker, road racer and triathlete, he's eager to share his passion with CAGE's kids.

"You can see things you can't even see in a car when you have the freedom to ride a bike," he said. "Bikes enable you to go faster and further than you can on your own two feet. That's all there is to it. I can get from here to there faster on a bike than I can on my feet, so I like my bike and the kids appear to have the same sort of enthusiasm."

Aside from learning the childhood skill of cycling, CAGE participants also get a solid grounding in physical activity and game play, said Robinson. "We work on gross motor skills, fundamental movement skills, game play - understanding how a soccer game works, how basketball works, because the goal is to get them ready for the community." ■



Ileiren Byles

Mike Cabigon observes Francis, as the eight-year-old tests his braking skills.

Pickin' up on a passion for music

Professor pursues his passion

By Zoltan Varadi

Blame it on the kid from *Deliverance*. You know the guy. He was even spoofed on *The Simpsons*, which makes it official – everyone has at least a passing familiarity with the inbred hillbilly who saw Burt Reynolds and Co. off on their ill-fated canoe trip down a river in the Deep South in the 1972 Billysploitation flick.

And, if you can't recall the bald child's creepy, toothless visage, you surely remember the tune he picked along with one of Burt's soon-to-be-dead fellow travellers: *Dueling Banjos*.

"Everybody loves that song," said Dr. Lee Foote, a professor in the University of Alberta's Department of Renewable Resources. However, his enthusiasm dampened a little when he mused about how indelibly etched the banjo is in popular culture thanks to that, and similarly cartoonish Hollywood depictions of Southern folks. It's understandable, given that Foote is both an avid devotee of the instrument and a native of Louisiana.

"I always worry it's going to discredit me actually," he laughed, perhaps only half-jokingly. "People often have got some very stereotypical images of what a banjo player is, and it's not usually in the same sentence as 'university professor.' I know another tenured professor who's a great accordion player, but he keeps it very quiet."

Something happens every 10 years that brings bluegrass back to the front, said Foote of his genre of choice, which he plays with his group the High Point Bluegrass Band. "There was *Beverly Hillsbillies*, there was *Deliverance* – there's this real hokey attitude..."

However, he also sees the upside to such trends, citing the success of the *O Brother Where Art Thou?* soundtrack as bringing bluegrass into the mass-market mainstream. And, although that film too centered on some bumbling Appalachians, at least George Clooney's a big step up from Jed Clampett and The Kid.

"But there's a reason the banjo is featured in those kinds of settings," Foote explained. "There were very few instruments that could play over a crowded room full of dancers – the accordion was one, the fiddle was one. These were all acoustic and didn't rely on electric amplification."

"And those things have stayed on. That's one of the things about acoustic

music – what you play is what you get, there's no digital enhancement, there are no tubes, no amps. You make the sound and put the nuances and innuendo and all that into it."

Growing up in Cajun country – as opposed to bluegrass central, Kentucky, from which the genre's founder Bill Monroe coined the term in the '30s – it's the "Bluegrass State" – Foote initially picked up and started pickin' the banjo because, "as a high-school student, it was the most aggravating instrument I could find to bedevil my parents with."

That was more than 30 years ago, when he bought his first Sears & Roebuck model. After playing with Cajun groups, folk outfits and, eventually his true musical passion, bluegrass, Foote has now graduated to "a really fine instrument" – an 88 Stelling Sunflower. "It's a better instrument than I am a banjo player," he laughed.

However, a serious career in music isn't the point of Foote's hobby. He used the analogy of sport to explain. "Some people watch it on TV, some people go to live games and some people actually play, and then there's a tiny little fraction that goes out and plays pro and makes a living at it. It's the same with music."

And he's one of those who goes out and plays. Besides the occasional gig with the band, Foote is a frequent attendee of the Northern Bluegrass Circle, a club that meets every Wednesday at Pleasantview Community Hall. It has 40 – 50 members and is open to everyone, both pickers and spectators, for a \$2 cover. "It's sort of the nucleus meeting ground, after a while you know everybody who's an accomplished musician in town," he said of the tight-knit group whose membership ranges from kids of 14 - 75 years old.

"The real essence, the real joy of it, is that communication – that playing off each other and trying new things," said Foote. "It's a real rich little activity. It's supposed to be good for your mental acuity, your longevity. They say crossword puzzles and playing a musical instrument and playing cards – all three of those things are particularly good at staving off aging. They remap something in your brain and force you to



Rural economy professor Lee Foote loves the stripped-down sound of acoustic music. "What you play is what you get," he says.



think metrically and numerically, and look forward and back at the same time. It's a real mental exercise."

Foote added that when he's practicing his craft, his mind couldn't be farther away from committee meetings and writing grant proposals – a step back from university life which he learned to be a necessity early on in his career.

"I had some advice when I was a

young, aspiring PhD student, from a professor who said: 'If you love what you do, and your vocation and your avocation are identical, you become a one-trick pony. You become narrow,' he recalled. "And academia wants us to be something of a Renaissance thinker – have some breadth, and some ability to get outside of our field to get the big picture. You just need to be really broad minded and have a life." ■

Islamic model may have fuelled astronomical discoveries

Islamic Awareness Week lecture highlights similar theories on celestial matters

By Tom Murray

Nicolaus Copernicus is often cited as the man who gave us the heliocentric theory of the solar system, but there is some question as to the crucial influence that earlier Islamic scientists may have had on many of his ideas about the motion of the Earth.

F. Jamil Ragep, a professor of history of science at the University of Oklahoma, gave a lecture at the University of Alberta about similarities to be found in the theories of the 16th-century Copernicus and his 13th-century Islamic astronomer counterparts Nasir al-Din al-Tusi. That the two astronomers shared similar thoughts about the matter indicates some sort of exchange of ideas, said Ragep, noting that chapters in Copernicus' book, *On the Revolution of the Heavenly Bodies*, correspond closely with Tusi's own astronomical theories.

"People have been talking about this at least since (J.L.E) Dreyer – there has been a

long history of knowing about the connection," he said. Dreyer's classic text book, *The History of Planetary Systems*, was published in 1906.

Perhaps al-Tusi's greatest gift to the world of astronomy was his invention of the 'Tusi Couple' – a geometrical device that the Persian scholar used to resolve problems he had found with the ancient Greek scientist Ptolemy's models. As old documents have shown, Copernicus used the Tusi Couple in his own lunar theories.

"Islamic astronomers were, like Westerners, also interested in such details as the location of comets, and their relevance to rotation – whether they affected it," explained the visiting professor. "The question was whether observation or natural philosophy could explain these things. Unlike many of their peers, Copernicus and Tusi were both attempting to discredit the idea of observational evidence. They were also both arguing for a 'new physics'

to explain the motion."

Ragep has made the transmission between the two cultures his field of specialty. His book on Islamic astronomy – the two-volume Nasir al-Din al-Tusi's *Memoir on Astronomy* is a highly regarded study in the field. He has also co-edited a series of essays on the transmission of science between cultures called *Tradition, Transmission, Transformation*.

Both Copernicus and Tusi were dissatisfied with Ptolemy's other explanations in regard to the movement of the Earth and other celestial bodies. Ptolemy's cosmology – that the other planets revolved around a stationary Earth – had been the accepted theory since the second century. Copernicus was to some degree superseded in this by another figure in astronomy – the Islamic scholar Ali al-Qushji had already written about the possibility of the Earth's rotation before Copernicus was even born.

While there is no evidence that Copernicus discovered his mathematical hypotheses and astronomical models through written matter – he wouldn't have had access to Islamic texts – there is still some question as to whether he would have been influenced more directly. "There is too much coincidence to deny the evidence of transmission," Ragep said. "For instance, it should be noted that Copernicus studied for a time in Italy – which is not so far from Istanbul, where al-Qushji lived."

Ragep's visit to Edmonton as an Endowment Fund for the Future distinguished visitor was co-sponsored by the U of A's science, technology and society and Middle Eastern and African studies programs, as well as the Edmonton chapter of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada and the Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities. His talk also marked Islam Awareness Week. ■

Writing is like riding a motorcycle

Toby Fulwiler holding writing workshops on campus

By Anne Bailey

Motorcycle enthusiast and international expert in writing pedagogy Dr. Toby Fulwiler, will be on campus in late April to lead a series of teaching workshops for U of A faculty members.

From April 27 - 29, Fulwiler will provide practical advice about effective ways to use writing in any discipline to enhance the learning experience and improve the critical thinking skills of students.

Sponsored by the university-wide Writing Task Force, these free workshops are open to all teaching staff and will cover a variety of topics, ranging from suggestions for tackling common student writing problems to creating effective writing assignments to using writing as teaching tool.

Fulwiler has been a leader in the field of writing pedagogy for nearly three decades. In 1977, he was part of a group of academics that met at Rutgers University to explore the concept of "writing across the curriculum" for the first time. At that time, he came to understand "the role of writing in helping any individual become a more critical thinker and better learner" in a way he hadn't fully comprehended

before. He became passionate about helping other faculty "discover the power of writing to teach their subjects as well."

Since then, he has travelled throughout the world, leading workshops and acting as a consultant for many nascent Writing Across the Curriculum programs. He has published numerous books on writing for teachers as well as many writing textbooks and reference guides for students.

Fulwiler's workshops are highly interactive with participants actively responding to and working through specific cases and problems posed by Fulwiler. Writing, as well as the teaching of writing, shouldn't be predictable or formulaic, according to Fulwiler. Instead, they need to be open and, at times, risky activities.

Like a motorcycle rider, a writer and teacher should be "more attentive, more aware of the surrounding world, more conscious that the journey as much as the destination matters."

While at U of A, Fulwiler will be conducting both a large half-day and two small full-day workshops. Further registration information is available <http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/wtf/>. ■



Toby Fulwiler helped develop the concept of 'writing across the curriculum.' He'll be bringing practical advice to professors in April.

Canada's international currency still has value

Joe Clark says we need to take a more prominent role in international community

By Ileiren Byles

Canada's identity in the global community can be defined in the toss of a coin, former prime minister Joe Clark told a room full of University of Alberta students.

"When Canada has been most effective internationally, it has been because we pursued two priorities at the same time - we worked hard at our friendship with the United States and we worked hard at an independent and innovative role in the wider world," said Clark, who spoke on campus Monday. "Those are not opposite positions. They are the two sides of the Canadian coin and both must be given priority and attention or else we debase our currency."

After his short stint as the country's prime minister, the High River, AB native and University of Alberta alumnus served for 10 years as Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs. His involvement in foreign affairs gave Clark a new appreciation for how Canada's identity has been shaped - as well as the potential for the country's future.

"This country has always been an act of will. It didn't come together naturally, it doesn't stay together easily. Confederation was an act of will. Medicare was an act of will. Equalization was an act of will, so was the Charter of Rights, so was the Free Trade agreement," he said.

"One reality of our country is that we have to keep proving our worth to our parts. A companion reality is that that worth is real and it's substantial and it's about more than money and more than neighbourhood. A third reality is that we need those acts of will or we become smaller than our whole."

But as Canada becomes more self-absorbed, it's easy for us to take our good fortune for granted, said Clark. "A sense of purpose is much more difficult to generate now, in a time when cynicism grows everywhere," he said.

"I've come to believe that, more than independence in Quebec, more than alienation in the West, generating that sense of purpose is the Canadian challenge of this age. So, we should look to interests and aspirations that reach across the lines that might otherwise divide Canadians.

"What we do in the world reflects and

"A sense of purpose is much more difficult to generate now, in a time when cynicism grows everywhere, I've come to believe that, more than independence in Quebec, more than alienation in the West, generating that sense of purpose is the Canadian challenge of this age."

- Joe Clark

defines how we see ourselves at home." But, as important as our relationship with America is, it should not be the focus of Canada's foreign policy, he said. "Canadian policy will not be built on trade, nor on security, nor on a preoccupation with the U.S.A."

But that second side of the coin does add value to Canada's involvement in the rest of the world.

"Our access to Washington adds real clout to the standing we earn by our actions in other countries. When Canada's relations with Washington are strong, other countries come to us or listen to us - not just because of our own merits - but because we can influence, or they believe we can influence, the superpower," said Clark.

"By the same token, our reputation in the Developing World and our reputation in the multilateral community, to name only two critical forums, are assets that the U.S.A. cannot always command herself."

By taking a more prominent role in the global community, Canada will not only advance its own influence, but also strengthen its national identity and that's an opportunity that's too good to pass up, said Clark.

"Canada's strengths and reputation are far more relevant now in a world that is as turbulent and complicated as it has ever been. We have the luxury, we have the skill, we have the imagination to be on the leading edge of response to emerging issues and responsibilities in a world



Former prime minister Joe Clark spoke to students on campus Monday.

where everything is changing rapidly," he said. "That vocation can again become a critical element of the sense of purpose Canada always requires if we're going to transform our collection of interests into a

genuine national community. Moreover, in my view, if that international vocation is not mobilized in this mercantile and self-absorbed era, Canada will become steadily more marginal in international affairs." ■

New agency supports genomics research

Genome Alberta takes three-pronged approach

By Richard Cairney

Researchers at the University of Alberta are celebrating the creation of a new research funding body, Genome Alberta, and \$4.3 million in provincial funding for genomics research in Alberta.

The agency will fund research into genomics, particularly plant genomics, such as canola seed enhancement, frost resistance in wheat, softwood tree genomics, mouse models for hereditary disease, legal and social issues of genomics technology and computer visualization of gene patterns.

One beneficiary of Genome Alberta funding is Dr. Liang Li, a U of A chemistry professor who's developing new technology that will allow for more accurate imaging of biomasses - meaning better tools to diagnose diseases.

Li and his research team are trying to 'see' proteins and other biomarkers associated with certain diseases, which have yet to be identified. Certain proteins and other biomarkers are often associated with particular diseases.

Li will access tissue samples from the Alberta Breast Cancer Tissue Bank at the Cross Cancer Clinic and embark on a search for more proteins and biomarkers that are associated with different types of breast cancers.

"We're trying to discover not just one type of protein - we're trying to develop a panel of a dozen or even 100 proteins that can collectively indicate a diseased state," said Li, who is the Canada Research Chair in Analytical Chemistry.

And in the coming months he'll deal with issues surrounding intellectual property and patents the U of A hold on technology developed in his lab.

That in itself is another area Genome

"We're trying to discover not just one type of protein - we're trying to develop a panel of a dozen or even 100 proteins that can collectively indicate a diseased state."

— Dr. Liang Li

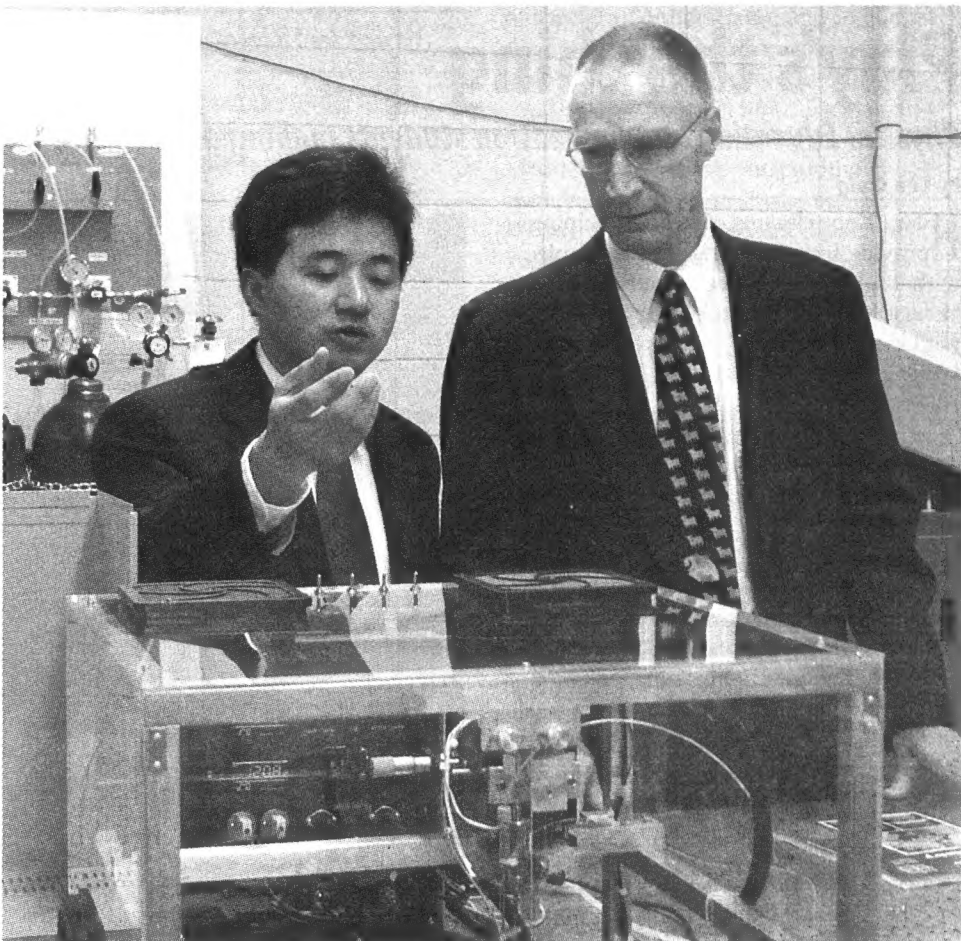
Alberta will be investigating. Dr. Tim Caulfield, a U of A law professor and Canada Research Chair in Health Ethics, is part of an Alberta Genome research project called Translating Genomics, which will probe the legal, ethical, social and economic issues related to genomics.

"We're looking into intellectual property and patenting issues to see if it is hurting or facilitating health care," said Caulfield, adding that an international conference on the subject will be held in Banff in May.

The project is also examining public perception and media portrayals of genomics and genomics technology and the way it affects public policy and public trust. And the research group will investigate policy making in itself. "We're interested in how governments should make decisions about what genomics technologies to fund - what should be part of the health system," he said.

Other research offers tantalizing economic impacts. Genome Alberta is supporting research into canola oilseeds and the potential to develop lubricants, plastics and fuels from plants.

Genome Alberta was established as part of the province's commitment to more vigorous investment in genome research as part of its Life Sciences strategy, and is



Richard Cairney

Canada Research Chair in Analytical Chemistry Dr. Liang Li describes his research to Alberta Science and Innovation Minister Victor Doerksen. Genome Alberta will fund research into new technologies and scientific advances as well as the legal, ethical and economic issues surrounding genomics.

the sixth centre to join the federal umbrella group, Genome Canada.

U of A Vice-President (Research) Dr. Gary Kachanowski said the establishment and funding of Genome Alberta is "an important new contribution" to funding for a government that is "determined to build

and enhance research excellence."

Science and Innovation Minister Victor Doerksen said the investment helps diversify the provincial economy. "This investment will help us to expand our research capability and encourage the development of life sciences industries," he said. ■

Parkland study says 'Third Way' is the wrong way

New book recommends strengthening public system

By Ieiren BYles

Researchers at the University of Alberta's Parkland Institute say the cold, hard facts about cold, hard cash don't point to the 'Third Way' as being the best way for health care.

The research institute's latest publication, *The Bottom Line: The Truth Behind Private Health Insurance in Canada*, comes with a warning against further privatization of Alberta's health care system.

"Experience in Canada and other countries is clear: privatized health financing costs more, not less," said author Diana Gibson, a research director with the Parkland Institute. "We wanted to focus specifically on the funding side of this issue and move the debate beyond rhetoric and ideology and into the realm of evidence."

Gibson and co-author Colleen Fuller, president and co-founder of Pharmawatch, turned to three areas for their research - pre-medicare Canada, the current system of subsidized health care in Canada as well as various international examples. Although the book does look at some European models, the focus is primarily on the United States, said Gibson.

"The book does draw heavily on the American model, and for good reason," she said. "The U.S. is the entity with which we are currently integrating our market and if we continue with that we will only be going down one path and that's toward the U.S. system."

Canadians don't have to look into the distant past to see what life was like without public health care. Before 1968, there were eight million Canadians without medical coverage and health care costs



Carlin Crawshaw

Diana Gibson, who co-authored *The Bottom Line: The Truth Behind Private Health Insurance in Canada* with Colleen Fuller, says the Alberta government is headed the wrong way with health care plans.

were the number one cause of personal bankruptcy in Canada, said Gibson.

That's a number that's echoed in the United States today. "In the U.S. health care is still one of the leading causes of bankruptcy," said Gibson. She added that 75 per cent of those people who declared bankruptcy due to health costs had insurance going into their health care crisis - it was the cost of insurance alone, rather than treatment, that caused their economic ruin.

What's more, she said, insurance companies won't provide coverage for every-

one. "You have people with pre-existing conditions who do not get any coverage - if you've survived breast cancer, if you're obese, or even eight per cent of those people with hay fever are refused insurance."

Private health insurance is also bad for the medical profession, according to the report. American doctors routinely lose 15 - 30 per cent of their billings because private insurers deny their claims. In Canada before medicare it was not uncommon for doctors to lose tens of thousands of dollars per year in unpaid medical bills. —

"We wanted to focus specifically on the funding side of this issue and move the debate beyond rhetoric and ideology and into the realm of evidence."

— Diana Gibson

The Bottom Line concludes with a seven-point agenda to protect the rights of patients by strengthening and improving the public health financing system, which includes strengthening and expanding the Canada Health Act, introducing a pharmaceutical program and eliminating health-care premiums.

While researchers at the Parkland Institute don't exactly expect Alberta's Conservative government to take the book to heart, "our hope comes from the idea that maybe the public will pick it up and start demanding some different action from their government," said executive director Ricardo Acuna. "Our role is not to lobby government, but to make information available to the public."

Gibson had a word of encouragement for people who had protested loudly against the controversial Bill 11 in 2000, which suggested contracting out health-care services to private clinics. "A lot of people felt that all of these protests against Bill 11 were ignored, but the bill they ended up with was not the Bill 11 they started with. It was very much a watered-down version. They changed that bill dramatically and it was due to the controversy and protests." ■

Play's the thing

Physical Education and Recreation students making a difference

By Lee Craig

Hilary Knox dreams of a career helping provide fitness and health for people with disabilities. She feels privileged to be heading to Thailand in May to work with kids through the Play Around the World program offered at the University of Alberta.

The third-year Physical Education and Recreation student started thinking of applying to the program while she was in her first year. Play Around the World is a three-month practicum that provides opportunities for disadvantaged children and youth in Thailand to be involved in play and other recreational and sport activities. The kids are from orphanages, schools for the disabled, refugee camps, or social agencies, including one for children who live on the streets.

Knox found out about the program when she took a course from Dr. Jane Vallentyne. Knox sees the practicum as a great opportunity to gain a broader world view, something Vallentyne agrees with.

"As much as we are going to provide sport and play programming for children who don't necessarily have much programming given to them, we are gaining so much more," said Knox, who will be one of five students situated in Chiang Mai, which is in Northern Thailand near Myanmar.

Five other students will be living and working in Pattaya in Southern Thailand, for a total of 10 students, two more than in previous years. The project began in Pattaya. Many children are orphaned in the city, the epicentre of Thailand's sex trade.

Vallentyne said that over the last six years she has seen how valuable an experience students have had in Thailand.

"The project is about our young people learning about culture. Mostly, it strips them of their ethnocentricity," she said. "They have grown up in Alberta; they see the world the way they have been raised. When we go over there, they might make some judgements about what they see. Typically, it might be about how inefficient the culture might be and then I watch them adopt a new culture, which is less externally oriented to things like time and material things."

When the students come back home, they often question how we do things here, said Vallentyne, and they have become global citizens. "It is an investment in our young Canadians."

Knox hopes to have a wider perspective and to be more sensitive to other cultures, adding, "We aren't going there to change their (children's) lives. We're going there and our lives will change."

Although Vallentyne also thinks the Canadians gain much more than they give back, she also emphasizes the importance of play and recreation to the Thai children, and to all people.

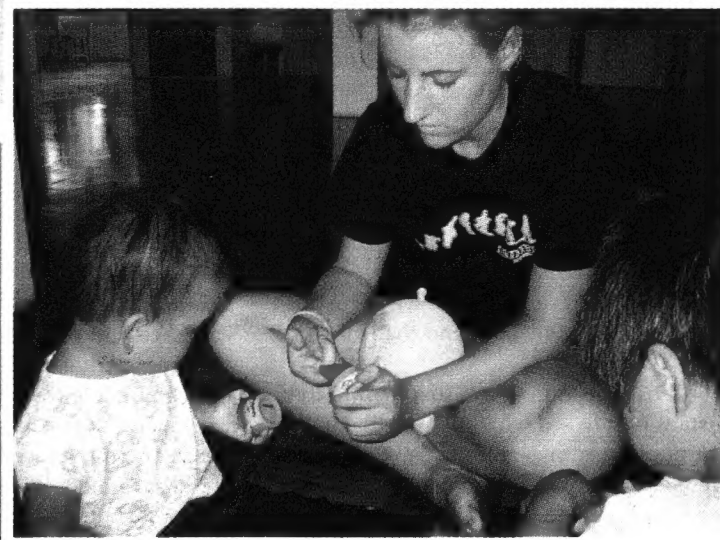
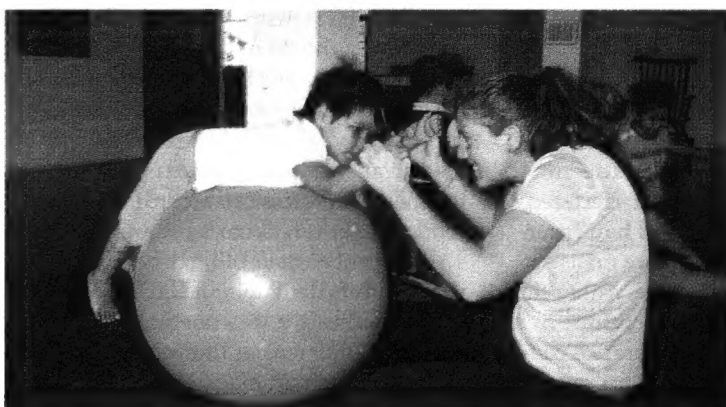
"We forget about how important play is in human development and in the development of our spirit, regardless of how old we are. For children who have suffered a great loss or abandonment, it is a powerful thing. It is not a frill. It's serious business."

The U of A students have a wide variety of educational backgrounds that can change every year – developmental psychology, occupational therapy, adapted physical education, therapeutic recreation, music therapy – and the activities can be adapted depending on these specializations. They also use whatever equipment has been donated in each year to play with the kids.

Vallentyne says the students and program leaders work with the heads of schools and social agencies to help them



Above Julie Venner, face painting at Kawila Anukul School for children with intellectual disabilities, in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Middle Tug-of-war with children during the play day at the Cammillian Social Centre in Chiang Rai, Thailand. Bottom Venner playing with pre-school children at Agape House, an orphanage in Chiang Mai, Thailand.



Continued on Pg 9

Focus Continued from Pg 8
develop their own sustainable programs, and that they try to do this in a respectful way.
“We are more mindful of learning what they want, what works with their culture and traditions,” said Vallentyne.

Sometimes the best activity can be something as simple as taking kids to the beach, said Son Truong, who volunteered in Chiang Mai last summer and is one of two group leaders for the students going on this year’s work program.

For kids with disabilities, the smells, sounds, or touch of sand and water can be an experience they have never had, he said.

In Thailand, for kids with disabilities to go to the beach is a big deal, agrees Vallentyne.

“To have a disability in Thailand is bad karma, and they don’t have as many human rights. That can include such opportunities as travel,” she said.

Truong is in his first year working towards a master’s degree in recreational therapy. He wants to use his education in international development work. He says that while the new volunteers may find the language barrier difficult at first, they find other ways to communicate.

“Although we are not always able to communicate verbally, if we see smiles or hear laughs, we get a sense that the children are enjoying what they are doing and are happy to be participating.”

As a group leader, Truong will be going to Chiang Mai for a month to help settle the students into the city and their duties, then returning to Edmonton.

He said that he and the three other people he worked and stayed with last summer grew very close from living and working together, and he hopes the new volunteers have the same experience.

Truong’s group shared the same apartment and often used bicycles to get to their project sites.

During the past three months, both five-member student groups have been concentrating on fundraising and participating in lectures on cultural mores and team-building exercises, because, as Truong pointed out, the students will be spending a lot of time together, working about 40-hour weeks.

“We have had great lectures on cultural awareness,” said Knox. “Things that wouldn’t have occurred to us such as ‘on’t touch the children on the head, instead touch them on the shoulder, when playing a game like ‘Duck, Duck, Goose.’ ”

Being touched on the head is not considered respectful to Thai people. The head is considered the highest point on the body, literally and figuratively.

As well, Knox said, the students learned to not wave when calling the children over to them.

“That is something that is done to cattle,” said Knox. Instead, the students should invert their hand, with the fingers facing downward when gesturing. It is a form of sign language that Thai children respond to for “come into a circle.”

Knox expects the language barrier to be difficult at first, especially when working with blind children. Her biggest fear is that she might not be able to deliver the quality of performance she thinks she should.

“I don’t want to disappoint people, and I want the program and activities to be successful...that’s what motivates me,” said Knox, who adds that she feels very fortunate to have been picked to participate in the Play Around the World program.

QuickFacts
Each Play Around the World student has to raise \$5,200 to go on the trip, which covers their plane fare, accommodation, and food. Buffet dinners at the King and I restaurant have already been held to raise money for the trip, but if you would like to support Play Around the World, donations are most definitely being accepted. Please contact Jeff Wright at 492-8804 or jeff.wright@ualberta.ca.

If you would like to donate equipment, please contact Jane Vallentyne at 492-8369 or at jane.vallentyne@ualberta.ca . ■

Donation creates new Chair in neurology

Foundation honours memory of Dr. Henri Toupin

By Ilieren Byles

A \$3-million gift will give the University of Alberta a leg up when it comes to fighting the damage of Alzheimer’s disease, strokes and other neurological disorders.

“The foresight and amazing philanthropy behind this gift will allow the University of Alberta to establish - not one, but two, two new chairs, research chairs - the Henri M. Toupin Chair in Neurology and the Henri M. Toupin Chair in Neurodegenerative Disorders,” said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. “I don’t think there’s any field, when you think about where the frontiers of medicine are in brain and brain-related research, that quite enjoys the prospect of major advances as this field does.”

The \$3-million gift from the Henri M. Toupin Medical Foundation was given to the university in memory of an Edmonton doctor who was known for his patient-centred care, said the U of A’s Chair of Medicine, Dr. Jon Meddings. “He would have been tickled pink by this,” said Meddings, who was a student under Henri Toupin. “It’s one of the things he would have loved. It’s a tremendous thing that was done and done in the memory of a great neurologist in this city.”

While the foundation has been active since the 1980s, funding equipment pur-

“What this is going to do is look towards

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two world-class leaders to work in the

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Foundation has set up.”

— Dr. Jon Meddings

chases, research grants and scholarships, this gift is its crowning glory.

“The time has come, we felt, to try and move on to something bigger and better,” said Chris Laing, chair of the Henri M. Toupin Medical Foundation board. “What happened is the board decided, to continue in memorandum of Dr. Toupin, to distribute his entire legacy to the university to which he was formerly connected and had a lot of passion for.”

The \$3 million is just the tip of the iceberg, said Samarasekera.

“We expect, and we have every reason to believe that our expectations will be met, that this donation will be matched one-to-one by the provincial government’s Access to the Future Fund,” she said. “So, that’s

a wonderful endorsement and will allow the foundation’s donation to be amplified through the provincial commitment.”

The donation will build partnerships to enhance ground-breaking work, said Meddings. “We have outstanding people here. We’re leaders in stroke research. We’re leaders in movement disorders. We’re leaders in degenerative diseases of the brain, and the Toupin Foundation, for a large part, has done a lot of that,” he said. “What this is going to do is look towards the future. This is an opportunity to get two world-class leaders to work in the already-fertile ground that the Toupin Foundation has set up.”

The two new research positions will go a long way towards furthering the U of A’s goal of becoming one of the top 20 universities by 2020, said Samarasekera.

“We can only serve our local community well, both the province and the country, by being one of the best in the world. And visionary gifts like those of the Toupin Foundation are fundamental to this,” she said, thanking the foundation. “I know that you will be amazed at the many-fold returns of this gift. Our U of A neurologists will be in the forefront of research and education and you can take a great deal of credit for putting them there. And, in the end, we all benefit.” ■

New Augustana centre honours Chester Ronning

Ronning’s legacy lives on in Camrose

By Zanne Cameron

The University of Alberta has launched a new centre for the study of religion and public life, named for a man described as a rancher, code-breaker and revolutionary.

The Chester Ronning Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life, located at the university’s Augustana Campus in Camrose, AB., was officially opened last week.

A think-tank on religion and public life, it will foster discovery and debate surrounding ideologies and the nature and shape of public life.

“There is an old saying that a prophet has no honour in his own home,” Audrey Topping, Ronning’s daughter, said during the launch. “That certainly is not true of Camrose.”

An accomplished photojournalist, Topping retold her father’s story, it was apparent that Ronning’s life was inextricably bound to the University of Alberta Augustana Campus and to Camrose. Ronning graduated from the U of A in 1916 with an education degree, and was later recognized with an honorary doctorate. He was former principal of Camrose Lutheran College, (Augustana’s predecessor), from 1927 – 1942, and returned to Camrose in retirement, until his death in 1984, shortly after his 100th birthday.

Ronning, widely regarded as one of Canada’s most important diplomatic figures of the 20th century, was at the opening as everything from a teacher, artist and loving father, to a soldier and a missionary, a man who walked with kings and leaders, but whose heart lay with the common man.

Augustana Dean Roger Epp opened the launch by saying he felt the Ronning story should be told more often. “He was a man whose life bridged generations and continents.”

Centre Director David Goa spent his early childhood in Camrose. His father and Ronning knew one another and now Goa, a well-known scholar of religious studies, and former curator of folk life at the Royal

“The modern university is the only safe

place for shedding hope and light on the

extraordinarily hard questions that face an

incredibly complicated world.”

— Dr. Carl Amrhein

Alberta Museum, has taken on the leadership of the centre.

Speakers from the religious, political, public and academic spheres all addressed the life of Chester Ronning and the need for a centre such as this.

Seymour Topping, Ronning’s son-in-law, former *New York Times* correspondent and editor, and Columbia University Professor, recounted Ronning’s failed attempt to broker peace between the United States and Vietnam. He spoke of his father-in-law’s profound hope for a better world and said that through the centre’s acknowledgement of the spiritual and the public life of Chester Ronning, “students would find unending inspiration.”

“The modern university is the only safe place for shedding hope and light on the extraordinarily hard questions that face an incredibly complicated world,” said Dr. Carl Amrhein, U of A Provost and Vice-President (Academic).

Bill Blaikie, MP and deputy leader of the National NDP party, acknowledged the great need for building understanding between politicians and leaders in religious and secular communities and stated that “we will not have peace between religion and religion, or between religion and the secular world in the 21st century until the political world understands the religious world.”

Lutheran Bishop Ray Schultz noted headlines such as the threatened beheading of an Afghani who converted to Christianity, and spoke of the dichotomy



Chester Ronning

between the pluralistic cultural context and the specific context of capitalism. “Post modernism isn’t going to be able to help us. We need something more. It is a trans-modern world and we must share across historical and ideological boundaries.”

Brian Evans, China scholar and professor emeritus at the University of Alberta, stated that Ronning was “a hero of mine.” Evans said Ronning had a longing and desire to bring harmony and balance to his world.

“He directed the choir to make harmony from discordant voices, and it was a talent that he demonstrated in spades as a diplomat.”

Bringing Evans’ point home, the event closed with the soaring young voices of the Augustana choir, singing the same hymn featured in a clip from an NFB documentary, *China Mission, the Chester Ronning Story*. ■

talks & events

Submit talks and events to Lorraine Neumayer by 12 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication. **Folio Talks and Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm>.** A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca.

UNTIL APR 6 2006

Visit the University of Alberta's Observatory

Every Thursday evening the observatory is open to the public. Everybody is welcome and admission is free. Star clusters, planets, nebulae and the Moon will be visible through our telescopes. We are located on the roof of the Physics Building. Take the elevators to the 6th floor and walk up the final set of stairs. 8 - 9 p.m. Physics Building 7th floor and rooftop.. <http://www.phys.ualberta.ca/research/astro/observ.php>

UNTIL MAR 31 2006

The Librarian is in... The Librarian is in? is a program brought to you by the University of Alberta Libraries. The Librarians will be in the Student Union Building to help students, staff and faculty with research problems by bringing our resources to you. Student Union Building.

UNTIL APR 8 2006

Guest-Artists Robert Jancovic: Printworks and Atsuko Ohta: Traces of Silence. Over the last 25 years the Printmaking Division of the Department of Art and Design has hosted 37 artists from 17 countries as International Guest Artists in Residence. As an ongoing part of this program the Department of Art and Design is pleased to present two solo exhibitions by current guest-artists Robert Jancovic, Slovenia, and Atsuko Ohta, Japan. Please join us for the Opening Reception on Tuesday, March 28, 7 - 10 p.m. Regular Gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m -5 p.m., and Saturday, 2 - 5 p.m. The Gallery is Closed Sunday, Monday, and statutory holidays. Fine Arts Building Gallery, room 1-1 Fine Arts Building, 112 street and 89 avenue.

Studio Theatre presents Scenes from an Execution by Howard Barker Howard Barker's *Scenes From An Execution* depicts a brilliant and defiant female artist who is commissioned by the State to create a painting to commemorate a momentous military battle. The play fearlessly explores themes of power, sexuality, and human motivation, overflowing with rich language, challenging ideas, beauty, history, violence and an unusual sense of humour. Advance tickets available through TIX on the Square 420.1757 or online at www.tixonthesquare.ca. Walk-up tickets available at the Timms Centre Box Office one hour prior to curtain, for that day's performance only. No performance Sunday, April 2, 2006. 8 p.m. Timms Centre for the Arts. <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/drama/studiotheatre.cfm>

MAR 31 2006

17th Annual Warren Kalbach Conference
An annual conference on population issues held at

the University of Alberta. This year's theme focuses on aging in Canadian society. Tory Breezeway #2. <http://www.ualberta.ca/PRL>

Bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis as factors limiting population growth of bison in Northern Canada Damien Joly, Wildlife Disease Specialist, Fish and Wildlife Division, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development is presenting a seminar on "Bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis as factors limiting population growth of bison in Northern Canada." 12 p.m. M-149 Biological Sciences Building. <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/biol631/>

Lecture Lecture With guest Melanie Turgeon Professor, The King's University College. "From Secular to Sacred in Alfred Schnittke's Choral Output." 3 p.m. 1-29 Fine Arts Building.

Physics Colloquium Title: The energy flux in the Earth Speaker: Dr. Kasper van Wijk Physical Acoustic Lab Colorado School of Mines.This presentation aims at introducing RT and Seismic Interferometry, and connecting dots between the estimation of subsurface parameters for geophysical applications and fundamental physics questions of wave propagation in random media. Coffee and cookies will be available at 3 p.m. outside of V128. Department colloquia are intended to benefit all students and staff. 3:15 p.m. - 4 p.m. V128 Physics. <http://www.phys.ualberta.ca/>

Nonhomologous recombination and catalytic RNAs Peter Unrau, Assistant Professor, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Simon Fraser University is presenting a seminar on "Nonhomologous recombination and catalytic RNAs." 3:30 p.m. M-149 Biological Sciences Building. <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/genet605/>

Nonhomologous recombination and catalytic RNAs Peter Unrau, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Simon Fraser University is presenting a seminar on "Nonhomologous recombination and catalytic RNAs." 3:30 p.m. M-149 Biological Sciences Building. <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/genet605/>

Trophy Taking: A Bioarchaeological Perspective on the History of Ritualized Violence The 2006 Richard Frucht Memorial Lectures Series will feature Dr. Phillip Walker, University of California, Santa Barbara. 4 - 5 p.m. Tory Breezeway 1 (TB-W1). <http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/~agas/frucht2006.html>

2nd Annual Charity Classic hockey game
Cheer on either the Lister residents or Campus Security Services as they battle it out on the ice. \$2 admission as well as non-perishable food donations accepted at the door. All proceeds go to the U of A Campus Food Bank. 8 - 10 p.m. Clare Drake Arena.

World Music Ensemble: Indian Music

Ensemble World Music Ensemble Indian Music Ensemble. Wasanti Paranjape, Director. 8 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

APR 1 2006

World Music Ensemble: West African Music Ensemble West African Music Ensemble. Robert Kpogo, Director, with Wajjo Drummers and Dancers. 8 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

APR 2 - 5 2006

Call for Papers: 12th Annual Qualitative Health Research Conference Abstracts for oral papers, symposia or poster presentation are invited from all health care disciplines. Please send abstract as an email attachment (rich text format preferred) to karen.mcdaniel@ualberta.ca. Deadline for submissions is January 6, 2006. Please see <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/iiqm/QHR2006.cfm> for more information on the conference. The Westin Hotel, Edmonton.

APR 2 2006

Music at Convocation Hall II Music at Convocation Hall II. Janet Smith, soprano; Aaron Au, violin; Julie Amundsen, cello; Dave Quinn, clarinet; bass clarinet Roger Admiral, piano; Phil Hornsey, percussion; Andriy Talpash, conductor. Faculty Composers Concert False Positives (2004) (Premiere): Laurie Radford Chasing Twelve O'Clock (2004/5): Andriy Talpash Retro; Proto (1); Proto (2) (2005) (Premiere); 10M - 5P - 17m (2005): Howard Bashaw new work (2005/6) (Premiere); A Book from the Harbour (chapter III) (1995); Vorwissen (2004): Paul Steenhuisen. 3 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

Master of Music Recital Master of Music Recital, Kimberley Denis, Choral Conducting Program, will include works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Orlando Gibbons, William Byrd, Orlando di Lasso, Johann Sebastian Bach, Johannes Brahms and others. 8 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

APR 3 2006

Research Presentation - Dr. Thandisizwe Mavundla - "Xhosa teenage boys' experience of indigenous circumcision rites in East London South Africa" Dr. Mavundla is a candidate for a Faculty position with the Faculty of Nursing. 12 - 12:55 p.m. Clinical Sciences Building 6-107.

Centre for Research for Teacher Education and Development Seminar The Centre for Research for Teacher Education and Development Invites students, faculty, and the public to: School beginnings; Political beginnings; Research beginnings: A personal story of working in teacher education By Dr. Helen May. Dr. May is Head of the

Faculty of Education at the University of Otago in New Zealand. A long time writer in the field, she has played an active part in the campaign for early childhood education over the last 20 years, and played a leading role in curriculum development and policy formation. 12 - 1 p.m. 633 Education South Education Centre.

Curriculum & Pedagogy Institute Guest Lecture Curriculum & Pedagogy Institute presents: Dr Shuying (Sean) Li, Center for Learning Study and School Partnership, Hong Kong Institute of Education. Title: Eastern Lesson Studies and Enhancement of Classroom Teaching and Learning. Refreshments will be provided. 12 p.m. 358/366 Education South Education Centre. <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/education//pdfs/CPlnWinter2006rev.pdf>

Music at Noon, Convocation Hall Student Recital Series Music at Noon, Convocation Hall Student Recital Series. Featuring students from the Department of Music. 12 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall .

APR 4 2006

Hope or hype? - do we need genetically modified food to feed the world? AFNS SEMINAR SERIES - Charting the Future of Agriculture Dr. Channapatna S. Prakash, Director, Center for Plant Biotechnology Research & Professor in Plant Molecular Genetics, Tuskegee University, Alabama, USA, Presentation Time: 4 - 5 p.m. and Refreshments (Cash Bar) 5 - 6 p.m. Room 150 Telus Centre (Lecture Theatre), 87 Avenue - 111 Street, University of Alberta Campus.

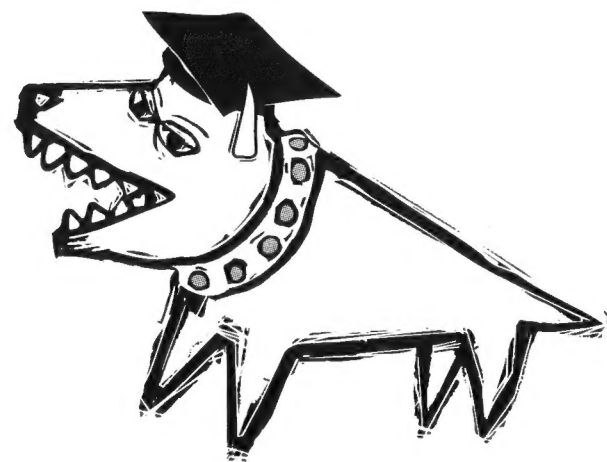
APR 5 2006

PHS Grand Rounds Dr. Chris Le, Professor Department of Public Health Sciences. "Ultrasensitive Detention of Proteins." 12 - 1 p.m. Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building. <http://www.phs.ualberta.ca>

Distinguished Visitor - Helen May An invitation to three lectures by Helen May, Distinguished Visitor to the Faculty of Education. "Images and insights of the colonial contexts for schooling in Aotearoa-New Zealand Date," April 5, 5 - 6:20 p.m., Faculty of Education Lecture. "Theatre Early childhood education in the Commonwealth: An historical perspective from Aotearoa-New Zealand and Canada" (with Larry Prochner), April 7, 12 - 1 p.m., 122 Education South. "The politics of early childhood advocacy regarding provision, status, and curriculum in Aotearoa-New Zealand," April 11, 7-8:30 p.m., Stanley A. Milner Library. All are Welcome. Dr. May is Head of the Faculty of Education at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. For further information please contact Larry Prochner, Department of Elementary Education. <http://www>

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uofaweb.ualberta.ca/education//pdfs/HelenMay-Lectures.pdf

Edmonton Regional Alumni & Friends Reception for Civil & Environmental Engineers Join other Edmonton-area University of Alberta Engineering alumni and friends of the Faculty as we pay tribute to all of you who carry on the great tradition of the U of A Engineer. 7 - 9 p.m. Solarium Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC). <http://www.engineering.ualberta.ca/alumni>

APR 6 2006

D.B. Robinson Distinguished Speaker Series, featuring Michael Tsapatsis Molecular Sieve Films Michael Tsapatsis, University of Minnesota Michael Tsapatsis joined the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science at the University of Minnesota in September 2003. His research interests include development of oriented zeolite films and molecular sieve/polymer nanocomposites for membrane applications. The research group of Professor Tsapatsis combines synthetic chemistry, materials processing, microstructural characterization and performance evaluation in order to develop innovative processing strategies for engineering functional devices and microstructures. Recent publications focus on molecular sieve synthesis, crystal structure elucidation, pattern formation, morphology control, and incorporation in engineering devices. 3:30 - 4:20 p.m. Refreshments will be available at 3:10 p.m. outside the room E1-007, Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC).

Agape Learning Over Lunch: Social Justice Video Series AGAPE, A Sex, Sexual, and Gender Differences in Education and Culture Focus Group in the Faculty of Education, presents 2005 - 2006 Learning Over Lunch: Social Justice Video Series (Free Admission). Today's Video Presentation: *Hate.com: Extremists on the Internet?* A gritty documentary that explores the individuals behind websites opposed to non-whites, gays, new immigrants, and a variety of other targets. Contains some explicit language and imagery. Guest Discussant: Dr. Alvin Schrader, School of Library & Information Studies. For more information, contact Dr. André P. Grace at andre.grace@ualberta.ca or Kris Wells at kwells@ualberta.ca or contact the Agape Project Office at 492-0772 or visit us @ 5-181K in the Education North Building. 12 - 1 p.m. 7-102 Education North Education Centre . http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/education//pdfs/agape2005_2.pdf

Nursing Rounds Dr. Sylvia Barton: "Spirit winds: A narrative inquiry into the Aboriginal stories of diabetes." Nursing Rounds is a weekly event. All faculty, students and clinicians are invited. Bring your lunch; soft drinks will be served. 12 - 12:45 p.m. Clinical Sciences 6-107. <http://www.nursing.ualberta.ca/homepage.nsf/website/nursing+rounds>

What is this thing called happiness? Professor Fred Feldman, Department of Philosophy, University of Massachusetts at Amherst. 3:30 p.m. Humanities Center 4-29. <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/philosophy/>

Colloquium - Dept of Mathematics & Statistical Sciences This week's guest speaker is Dr. Michael Ward from the Dept of Mathematics at the University of British Columbia. "The Stability of Stripes for Some Reaction-Diffusion Systems." The weekly Colloquium features various topics presented by University of Alberta faculty or from visiting academia. Please visit the Colloquium website. Refreshments are served prior to the talk, at 3 p.m. in 649 CAB. 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. 265 CAB. http://www.mathstat.ualberta.ca/newsevents_colloquium-Schedule.html

Piano Masterclass Piano Masterclass Visiting Artist Kent McWilliams Free admission 3:30 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

Cell Biology Guest Speaker Dr. Miguel Valvano Canada Research Chair in Infectious Diseases and Microbial Pathogenesis, Professor and Department Chair Microbiology and Immunology University of Western Ontario. "Burkholderia cenocepacia: an opportunistic bacterium that fools macrophages." 4 - 5 p.m. Classroom F - 2J4.02 WMC. <http://www.ualberta.ca/cellbiology>

4th Annual Almost Famous Cocktail Party & Fundraiser, in support of the Faculty of Extension's Liberal Studies art programs Tickets: \$200. Includes a work of art from an "Almost Famous" student. Event only: \$75. Call (780) 492-9448 to order tickets. It is an exclusive opportunity to view the work of the Faculty of Extension's visual arts students, instructors and alumni and if you wish to purchase artwork by this select group of emerging and established artists. A sampling of art work for purchase is posted at: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies. 7 - 9:30 p.m. 20th floor, ING Building, 10130 - 103 Street. <http://www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies>

APR 7 2006

Protecting migratory species that use space differently: Lessons from globe-trotting shorebirds Laura X Payne, University of Washington is presenting a seminar on "Protecting migratory species that use space differently: Lessons from globe-trotting shorebirds." Friday, 12 p.m. M-149,

Biological Sciences Building. <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/biol631/?Page=3701>

Postdoctoral Fellows Research Day PDFs will be showcasing their research to the University community during a poster session the central event of the program. The main goals in putting on this event are to: provide the opportunity to establish new research collaborations showcase PDF research to the University community raise awareness of the crucial role that postdocs play in the success of the University's research endeavor 1:30 - 6:00 p.m. Telus Centre. <http://www.ualberta.ca/gradstudies/postdoctoral/index.htm>

Internal affair: Iron regulation by a small RNA Eric Massé, Department of Biochemistry, University of Sherbrooke is presenting a seminar on "Internal affair: Iron regulation by a small RNA." 2:30 p.m. M-149 Biological Sciences Building. <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses/genet605/index.php?Page=3700>

Visiting Artist Recital Visiting Artist Recital Kent McWilliams, piano Soleil pour piano solo: Denis Gougeon Five Preludes, Op. 16: Alexander Scriabin Sonata for Piano: Rodion Shchedrin Desperate Measures (Paganini Variations), Op. 48 (1996): Robert Muczynski Four Mazurkas, Op. 24; Polonaise in A-flat Major, Op. 53: Fryderyk Chopin 8:00 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall .

APR 8 2006

Between Didactic Stories and History in the Old Testament, and What Follows? Dr. Ehud Ben Zvi, Professor, History & Classics. 2 - 3:30 p.m. Stanley A. Milner Library (Basement in the Edmonton Room), 7 Sir Winston Churchill Square.

Happnin' U of A Jazz Choir Happnin' U of A Jazz Choir John McMillan, Director. 8 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

APR 9 2006

University of Alberta Concert Band University of Alberta Concert Band. Wendy Grasdahl, Director. 3p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

University of Alberta Madrigal Singers Spring Concert University of Alberta Madrigal Singers Spring Concert Leonard Ratzlaff, Director. Featuring Songs of Ariel: Frank Martin Hesperides: Malcolm Forsyth with Nora Bumanis and Julia Shaw, harp All Saints? Anglican Cathedral 10035-103 St. 8 p.m. All Saints' Anglican Cathedral 10035-103 Street .

APR 10 2006

Noon Hour Organ Recital A variety of organ repertoire played by students, faculty and guests of the University of Alberta's Department of Music. 12 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall .

Grant MacEwan College/University of Alberta Jazz Bands Grant MacEwan College and University of Alberta Jazz Bands. Raymond Baril and Tom Dust, Directors. 7:30 p.m. John L Haar Theatre, Centre for the Arts, Grant MacEwan College.

New Music Concert New Music Concert featuring new works by U of A Student Composers. 8 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

APR 11 2006

Environmental Health Sciences Seminar Dr. Brian C. Foster, Senior Science Advisor, Therapeutic Products Directorate, Health Canada, and Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa, will present: "Drug, Food, Natural Health Product Interactions: Confounding Issues, Recent Findings and Public Health Issues." 3 - 4 p.m. 2-117 Clinical Sciences Building.

Surface Tensiometry by Drop Shape Analysis and Biomedical Applications A. W. Neumann Professor, University of Toronto. Contrary to wide spread belief, surface tension measurement is not a near trivial matter. Of the many methods suggested and used through the years, detailed analysis of the shape of a liquid meniscus, in particular of drops, holds many possibilities not available by other strategies. The presentation will include fundamental, conceptual and experimental aspects as well as matters of quality control of the output of the methodology. The applicability to various scientific and applied problems as well as a range of applications will be discussed. Finally, a biomedical application to the study of surface properties of lung surfactant films, i.e. the films that coat all mammalian lungs and that facilitate breathing, will be discussed in some detail. 3:30 p.m. 2-001 Natural Resources Engineering Facility, Markin/CNRL. <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/mece/departementseminars.cfm>

Distinguished Visitor - Helen May An invitation to a lecture by Helen May, Distinguished Visitor to the Faculty of Education. "The politics of early childhood advocacy regarding provision, status, and curriculum in Aotearoa-New Zealand." Dr. May is Head of the Faculty of Education at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. For further information please contact Larry Prochner, Department of Elementary Education. 7:00 p.m. Stanley A. Milner Library. <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/education//pdfs/HelenMay-Lectures.pdf>

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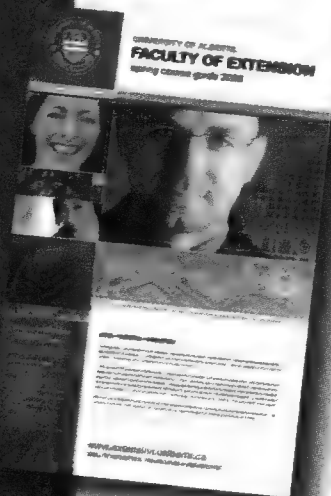
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APR 12 2006

HUB Mall Goodie Give Away Come and celebrate the last day of classes, Wednesday April 12th and enjoy FREE goodies (cookies and punch). Bring your friends to the Mural in the middle of HUB Mall from 10:30 am - 12 p.m. Old World Mural location in the middle of HUB Mall. <http://www.ualberta.ca/hubmall>

PHS Grand Rounds Guest Speaker: Mr Geoffrey Granville, Manager, Toxicology and Material Safety, Shell Canada Ltd, Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences. "H2S - A Simple Chemical with a Complicated Story." 12 - 1 p.m. Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building. <http://www.phs.ualberta.ca>

APR 13 2006

Nursing Rounds Dr. Karin Olson: "Rethinking fatigue." Nursing Rounds is a weekly event. All faculty, students and clinicians are invited. Bring your lunch, soft drinks will be served. 12 - 12:45 p.m. Clinical Sciences Building 6-107. <http://www.nursing.ualberta.ca/homepage.nsf/website/nursing+rounds>

APR 17 2006

Master of Music Recital Master of Music Recital. Moira Hopfe-Ostensen, piano 8:00 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

APR 18 2006

President's Breakfast Roundtable with

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Students President Indira Samarasekera welcomes students to join her for breakfast on April 18 at 7:30 a.m. The discussion will be conducted in a roundtable format to allow everyone to have the floor. This is an excellent, intimate opportunity for students to speak to the President about their experiences at the University of Alberta. Space is limited, so please sign up early. 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. Saskatchewan Room, Faculty Club, 11435 Saskatchewan Drive.

Biological Applications of Magnetic

Nanoparticles Duane T. Johnson Associate Professor, University of Alabama. Research of magnetic nanoparticles has exploded recently due to their use in a number of exciting, potential applications. This presentation will summarize our work to date. Specific topics will include: the synthesis and characterization of new magnetic nanoparticles and particle dispersions, the surface chemistry involved in binding ligands to the particles, modeling the heat released by magnetic particles during hyperthermia treatment, monitoring the in vivo toxicity of the particles using C. elegans worms, and binding the particles to novel viral vector agents. 3:30 p.m. 2-001 Natural Resources Engineering Facility, Markin/CNRL. <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/mece/departmentsseminars.cfm>

APR 19 2006

PHS Grand Rounds Dr. Carl V. Phillips, Associate Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences. "A Novel Approach to Assessing the Risks from Smokeless Tobacco: Looking at the Evidence." 12 - 1 p.m. Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building. <http://www.phs.ualberta.ca>

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notices

Please send notices attention Folio, 6th floor General Services building, University of Alberta, T6G 2H1 or e-mail public.affairs@ualberta.ca. Notices should be received by 12 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FUND

The "International Partnership Fund" (IPF) was established to support University of Alberta faculty and staff participating in exchange activities with the university's many partner institutions around the world. The fund provides financial support to faculty and staff engaged in the development and/or implementation of activities that contribute to sustainable and reciprocal relations with international academic partners. Awards may be used for travel by either the U of A staff/faculty member to visit an international partner, or for the faculty or unit to support a visitor from the partner. The fund favors activities that develop projects bringing an international focus to the academic, research and teaching mandate, and contribute to the internationalization objectives of the faculty.

Support from the IPF will ideally complement multiple funding sources. Matching support from the individual and/or the department/faculty and partner institution is required.

Note: The IPF only applies to those institutions with which the U of A has a formal agreement.

For guidelines, application forms and list of eligible partner institutions, please visit the University of Alberta International website: <http://www.international.ualberta.ca>

For more information please call 492-5840 or e-mail: ipf@international.ualberta.ca

Application deadline: Monday, May 1st, 2006

Call for Presenters: CSA northern research day Northern Research Day is a mini-symposium for graduate students from all faculties and departments to present information on their northern or boreal-related research in an informal and collegial setting. April 11, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Tory Breezeway room 2. Any interested presenters should please email Chantel Nixon (nixon@ualberta.ca) with a tentative title of your talk and geographic location of your research. Abstracts are due on or before March 27, 2006 and should be approximately 300 words in length. Talks will be limited to 15 - 20 minutes each. Speakers are strongly encouraged to present any stage of their research including thesis proposals and preliminary results. Boreal region researchers are also encouraged to participate, as well as senior undergraduate students undertaking Honours theses with a northern theme. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Breezeway 2 Tory Lecture Theatre Complex.

UNIVERSITY PROFESSORSHIPS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Selection Committee for University Professorships is pleased to invite nominations for the Spring 2006 competition. The title of University Professor is the highest honour this University can bestow on a member of its academic staff and is granted only to those individuals who have achieved outstanding distinction in each of the areas of scholarly research, teaching, service to the University and the community-at-large. An integral component to be expected of such distinguished performance is a breadth of scholarly interest and achievement that extends beyond the normal departmental and arbitrary disciplinary boundaries. Thus, the University Professor is a member of the staff whose scholarly works merit, or have merited, national or international attention; whose teaching ability is widely known and respected by colleagues and students alike as exceptional; and who has earned from the community a regard which favours both the individual and the University.

positions

The records arising from this competition will be managed in accordance with provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity of employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons. With regard to teaching positions: All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. For complete U of A job listings visit www.hrs.ualberta.ca.

INTERNAL AUDITOR INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES

The University of Alberta is seeking a talented, self-motivated professional to contribute to the delivery of Internal Audit Service's mission of providing independent, objective assurance and consulting services. Internal Audit Services helps the university accomplish its objectives by employing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control, and governance processes.

Reporting to the Director, the auditor will be responsible for planning and executing financial and operational audits across the institution. This includes working independently and with peers as well as managing co-sourced expertise. Internal Auditors also investigate allegations of frauds or

Any individual appointed to a full-time academic position without term at the University may be appointed a University Professor. Any member or members of the academic staff of the University may nominate a candidate with the candidate's permission.

Formal nominations, including supporting documents, should be submitted to Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), 2-10 University Hall, by 4:30 p.m., Monday, April 3, 2006.

Detailed criteria for nominations may be obtained from the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), telephone 492-2280.

SCOTIABANK-AUCC AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN INTERNATIONALIZATION

University of Alberta International (UAI) would like to encourage University of Alberta applications for the 2006 Scotiabank-AUCC Awards for Excellence in Internationalization. This prestigious awards program honours excellent initiatives Canadian universities have put in place to integrate an international dimension into teaching, research and community service.

This year's program will focus on initiatives that prepare students for a global future, with up to four initiatives selected to receive awards. Recipients will be celebrated at a national ceremony held in conjunction with AUCC's biannual meeting in October 2006, in a fall 2006 issue of AUCC's news magazine University Affairs, and at a national workshop on preparing students for a global future open to senior university administrators from across the country in spring 2007.

The application deadline for the awards program is April 21, 2006, but applicants must contact UAI by April 12, 2006 to coordinate required institutional signatures prior to submission. Competition details can be found in the program guidelines on the AUCC web site at www.aucc.ca/programs/index_e.html. Further questions regarding U of A submissions can be directed to Juli Betke at 492-2958 or juli.betke@ualberta.ca

EDMONTON CONSULAR BALL SCHOLARSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

The Edmonton Consular Ball Scholarship in International Studies was established in 1980 with funds generated by the Edmonton Consular Ball, which was held to mark the 75th anniversary of the province of Alberta. In each of the succeeding years, the Consular Corps contributed proceeds from the annual ball to the university for the scholarship. The value of this scholarship is \$1,000 plus travel expenses of \$1,000-\$1,500. For more information, e-mail ConsularBall@international.ualberta.ca, or phone 780-492-5840. Application deadline is March 27, 2006.

FSIDA (FUND FOR SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES)

The deadline for receipt of applications to the FSIDA is 4:30 p.m., April 18, 2006.

This Fund exists to enable staff and graduate students of the University of Alberta to participate in the international transfer of knowledge and expertise and graduate research through partnerships in developing countries.

Applications and guidelines are available on the University of Alberta International website www.international.ualberta.ca or from the FSIDA Secretary at University of Alberta International, 1204 College Plaza, 8215-112 St., telephone 492-2391.

irregularities and contribute to setting the strategic direction for the audit function.

Partnering with management to promote continuous improvement will require the auditor to use excellent business acumen, communication, analysis, and negotiation skills. The ideal candidate will:

- Hold a university degree and a relevant accounting designation CA/CMA/CGA or Certified Internal Audit (CIA).
- Look to utilize what they have learned in six to eight years of experience in an internal audit or related role in a complex organization. This includes excellent planning, organizational and interpersonal skills.
- Possess the ability to think strategically and to provide leadership in the areas of risk management and internal control, based on strong working knowledge of applicable frameworks

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- Be proficient in the use of desktop computing and related software, as well as the use of computer assisted audit techniques (experience with ACL preferred).
- Enjoy the challenge of keeping abreast of auditing trends and promoting the profession through initiative and high-quality work.
- Have, preferably, post-secondary or public sector experience supplemented with an audit specialization such as CISA or CFE.

The University offers a comprehensive salary and benefits package. This is a full-time continuing Administrative/Professional Officer position with a salary range of \$56,212 - \$89,000 per annum.

Internal Audit is committed to supporting employee health and wellness, and will consider candidates who want to work less than full time as part of selection process. Travel is very limited.

Review of applications will commence March 31, 2006, and will continue until the position is filled. More information about Internal Audit Services is available on our website: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/internalaudit/>

Applications should be submitted, in confidence, to:

Mary Persson
Internal Audit Service
307 Campus Tower
8625-112 Street
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 0H1
E-mail: mary.persson@ualberta.ca

BIostatistical ANALYST THE CANADIAN VIGOUR CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The Canadian VIGOUR Center at the University of Alberta is seeking applications for the post of a biostatistical analyst. The successful candidate should be able to work with large administrative and clinical trial databases and conduct statistical analyses to address clinical issues in consultation and collaboration with the centre's senior researchers. The candidate must have a Master's degree supplemented by strong training in statistical methods (such as logistic regression analysis and survival analysis). The candidate must be familiar with SAS and SPSS statistical packages and have proficiency in SAS and other statistical packages. Interested candidates should send a CV to Padma Kaul, 7226 Aberhart Ctr.1 or email pkaul@ualberta.ca.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, LAB-ON-CHIP BIOTECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Our laboratory has a position available in a project of integrating life science and molecular biology protocols onto microfabricated devices. Our primary goal is the development of medical diagnostics. We seek a person with a PhD in an experimental field in the life sciences, natural sciences or engineering. Anyone with experience with the conventional techniques described below, and with an interest in their miniaturization, is a suitable candidate for the position.

This multi-year project is a vibrant collaboration between labs in the Faculties of Engineering and Medicine & Dentistry. The project involves the transfer of conventional life science protocols to microfluidic ("lab on a chip") devices. Most of this activity will take place in a laboratory that is jointly operated by life science and engineering researchers. The position requires:

- A demonstrated ability to troubleshoot and think critically in an experimental environment.
- Good communication/interpersonal skills.
- The ability to work in a diverse interdisciplinary environment.
- Demonstrated experimental experience in biochemistry, biophysics, analytical chemistry or molecular biology, particularly in electrophoretic or other separation methods or in the development or troubleshooting of assays (chemical or biological).
- Demonstrated ability to productively direct one's own research, as well as that of others.

Applicants will have a PhD with a demonstrated record of productivity in an experimental area. The successful candidate will be a junior investigator and will participate fully in research and related scholarly activities. He/she will take a leadership role, work closely with the research team, mentor graduate students and manage long-term research projects to completion.

In order to apply, please send a cover letter and a CV that includes: 1) a list of research & development projects participated in, 2) a list of publications (please describe your role in each), and 3) the names and contact information of at least three references.

Please send these via email to:

Professor Chris Backhouse
Department of Electrical and Computer

Engineering
chrisb@ualberta.ca with a carbon copy (cc) to
Krista@ece.ualberta.ca

Please also use the subject line of "ATTN: RA - Integration Position" In case of difficulty in communications, please contact Krista at +1 (780) 492-8336.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Salary will be commensurate with experience. All applications will be acknowledged.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES AND SERVICES

The University of Alberta Libraries (www.library.ualberta.ca), Canada's second largest ARL library, and one of Canada's most technologically advanced research libraries seeks outstanding candidates for the position of Associate Director, Information Technology Resources and Services. The Associate Director will contribute personal vision and energy to ensuring that the Libraries form an active part of the University's aspirations for regional, national and international recognition. The incumbent will provide leadership in the vision, development and management of the Libraries' next-generation digital services environment and oversee the Information Technology Resources and Services Unit, including:

Providing leadership through the identification of technology-based applications that support improvements to library services and staff productivity and through participation in the Senior Administrative Team. Effectively planning, budgeting and allocating resources and implementing technology and applications in support of the vision, mission and goals of the Libraries, the Learning Services portfolio and the University.

Supervising the Information Technology Resources and Services staff, consisting of five librarians responsible for operations, web development, digital initiatives, e-resources and licensing; and twenty technical/support and project staff. Ensuring that the Libraries' and Learning Services' interests are represented on campus-wide committees and activities related to technology.

Contributing to the highly collaborative environment within the province, the region and the nation.

The ideal candidate will have an accredited degree in library science, a minimum of seven years of progressive experience, including work in library systems and/or technology, and a successful track record of management/supervisory experience. We expect demonstrated success in facilitating and managing technology in research libraries and a strong understanding of technical applications. We expect a strong communicator with an avid interest in pursuing new directions in digital library services and in fostering innovation and team building.

This tenure-track position is classified at the Librarian 3 level with a current salary range of \$74,754-118,722. Librarians at the University of Alberta have academic status and participate in a generous benefits program. Closing date for applications is April 30, 2006.

To apply, please mail, fax, or e-mail your letter of application, résumé, and the names and addresses of three referees to:

Karen Adams
Director of Library Services and Information Resources
Cameron Library
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2J8
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Email: karen.adams@ualberta.ca

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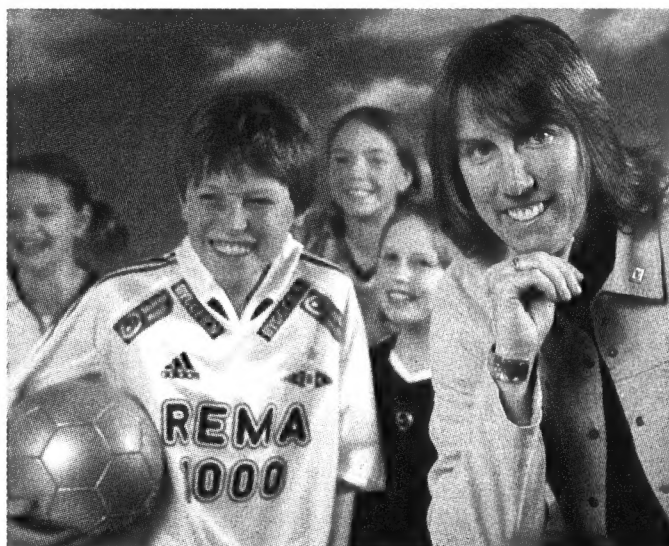


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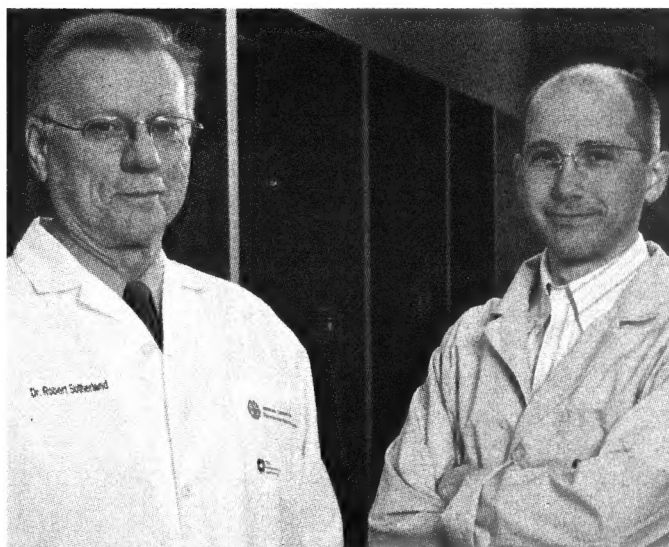
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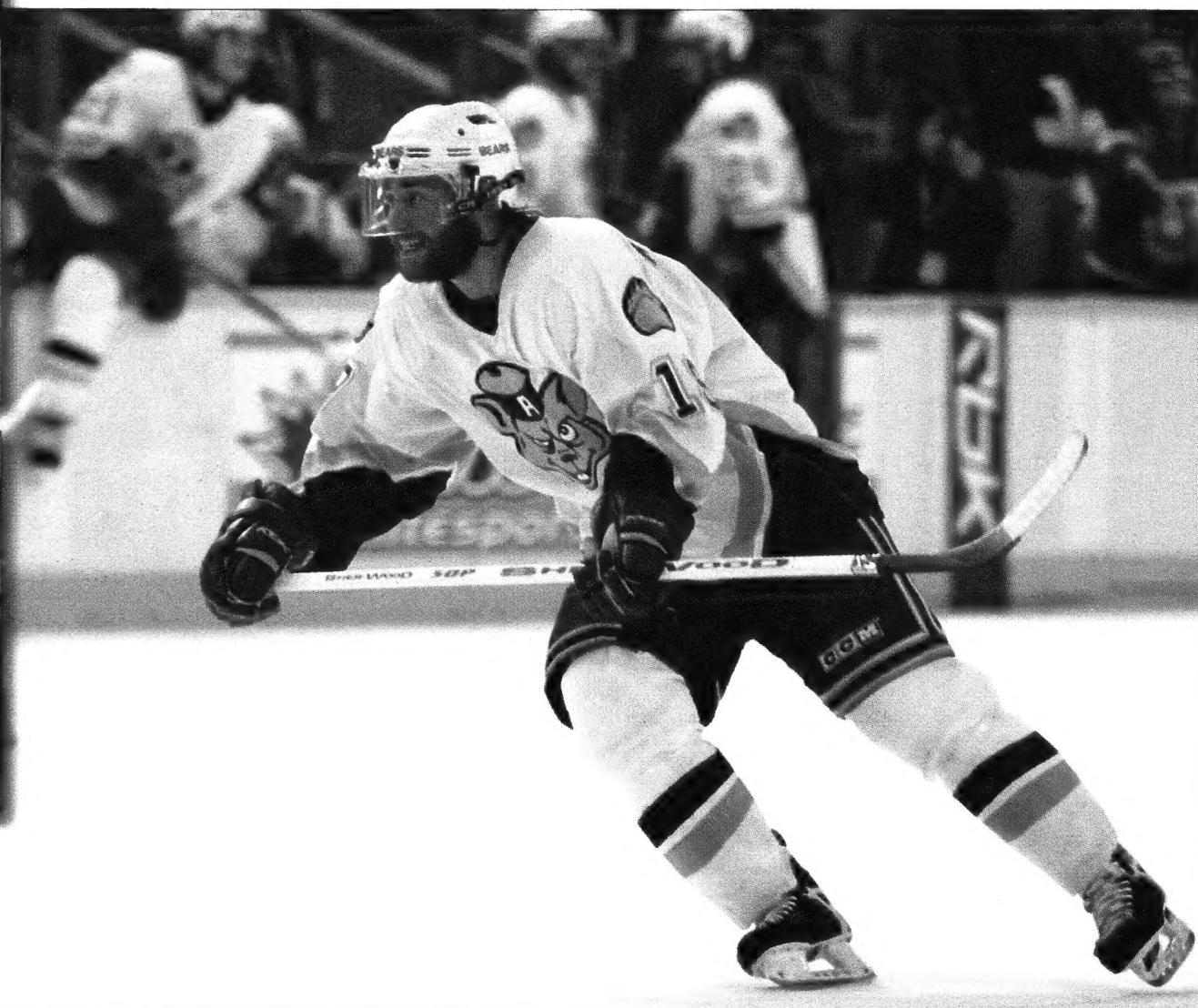
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The Golden Bears were as good as gold again this season, earning their fifth national championship in seven years. It was the Bears' second consecutive title, a record-setting 12th Canadian Championship.



Golden Bears cap of year of excellence in U of A hockey

By Richard Cairney

University of Alberta hockey teams are on top of the world this season with both the Pandas and Golden Bears winning national championships.

In mid-March, the Pandas won their fifth national championship in seven seasons and last weekend, the Bears earned their second national title in a row, a record-setting 12th Canadian university men's hockey title, before 7,615 at Rexall Place.

Alberta defeated Lakehead 3-2 and outscored the opposition 16-5 over three tournament wins. The Golden Bears, with

seven fifth-year players, became the first team since the 1999 and 2000 Alberta teams to win back-to-back titles.

"It's numbing," said Alberta first-year head coach Eric Thurston, who took over after 11 seasons as an assistant after Rob Daum left to coach the Minnesota Wild AHL farm team in Houston.

Alberta won both titles it hosted in Edmonton as the championship moves to Moncton in 2007 for two years. The University Cup is the final CIS championship of 19 awarded in 2005-06. ■

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